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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6509
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E.O. 11652: N/A
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SUBJ: PAPUA NEW GUINEA IN TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL: AMBASSADOR WHITE'S GENERAL DEBATE SPEECH

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SPEECH ON PAPUA NEW GUINEA DELIVERED BY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL AMBASSADOR WHITE, OCTOBER 17:

QUOTE: MR. PRESIDENT, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA AS THEY BECOME A NATION IN THEIR OWN RIGHT. THE STATEMENTS MADE TO THIS SESSION OF THE COUNCIL BY MINISTER MAORI KIKI AMPLY DEMONSTRATE THAT PAPUA NEW GUINEA HAS VIRTUALLY ATTAINED INDEPENDENCE AND ASSUMED THE RESPONSIBILITIES INHERENT IN IT.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA IS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE WHICH THE TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM HAS PLAYED IN FACILITATING THE SMOOTH TRANSITION OF THE TERRITORIES UNDER ITS AEGIS FROM DEPENDENCE TO SELF-DETERMINATION. THE CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP AMONG THE TRUSTEE-
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SHIP COUNCIL, THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY AND THE TRUST

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

TERRITORY HAS MADE THE PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION IN PAPUA
NEW GUINEA AS SMOOTH AND AS RAPID AS CIRCUMSTANCES PERMITTED.
MY DELEGATION DERIVES SATISFACTION -- WHICH WE HOPE IS NOT
MISTAKEN -- FROM THE THOUGHT THAT OUR MODEST CONTRIBUTION
AS A MEMBER OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL MAY HAVE ASSISTED
THIS TRANSITION. THANKS TO THE PRACTICE OF SENDING VISITING
MISSIONS TO THE TRUST TERRITORY, MY GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN
ABLE TO GAIN FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS
WELL AS THE GROWING PAINS OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA. WE HAVE TRIED
TO PUT THIS KNOWLEDGE TO GOOD USE HERE IN THE COUNCIL.

WE APPLAUD THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION OF AUSTRALIA,
WHICH AS ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY HAS WORKED CONSISTENTLY
TO PREPARE THE TERRITORY TO EXERCISE ITS RIGHT TO SELF-
DETERMINATION.

THE VITALITY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS
DESERVES SPECIAL MENTION. WHILE THE PROLONGED DEBATE ON THE
CONSTITUTION MAY SOMETIMES SEEM FRUSTRATING TO THOSE INVOLVED,
IT DEMONSTRATES THE VIGOR OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN PAPUA
NEW GUINEA. THE PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT HAS CLEARLY
TAKEN FIRM ROOT.

AS THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY WRESTLES WITH
PROBLEMS OF CITIZENSHIP, FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND THE PROPER
BALANCE BETWEEN POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND THE DISTRICTS,
IT IS ENGAGING IN THE ESSENTIAL WORK OF NATION BUILDING.
WE ARE ENCOURAGED TO LEARN THAT IN SPITE OF THE HEALTHY
POLITICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION,
THERE IS SIGNIFICANT COOPERATION BETWEEN THEM IN PREPARING
THE CONSTITUTION WHICH WILL BE THE FOUNDATION OF AN INDE-
PENDENT PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

WE WELCOME THE NEWS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA
IS DETERMINED TO FOSTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TO REAP THE
BENEFITS OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT. IT IS APPARENT
THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE CONSIDERABLE HEADWAY IN THIS
FIELD, NOT ONLY DEALING WITH EXISTING INVESTMENT RELATIONSHIPS,
BUT ALSO ANTICIPATING FUTURE CHALLENGES. WE LISTENED WITH
INTEREST TO YESTERDAY'S DISCUSSION OF GUIDELINES FOR FOREIGN
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INVESTMENT WHICH AIM TO BENEFIT BOTH THE PEOPLE OF PAPAU
NEW GUINEA AND THE INVESTOR. AS THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY
OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, MY GOVERN-
MENT IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN STUDYING THESE ECONOMIC
PROGRAMS. THEY MAY WELL HAVE RELEVANCE FOR MICRONESIA.
WE COMMEND PAPUA NEW GUINEA FOR ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES IN
THE INTERNATIONAL FIELD SO RAPIDLY. ITS DECISION TO SEEK
MEMBERSHIP IN THOSE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

FROM WHICH IT CAN DERIVE DIRECT BENIFITS IS A WISE ONE. WE
ARE ALSO IMPRESSED BY THE TRAINING WHICH PAPUA NEW GUINEA
HAS GIVEN TO ITS BUDDING DIPLOMATS. WE HAVE HAD THE GREAT
PLEASURE OF MEETING AT THIS COUNCIL SESSION SOME OUTSTANDING
MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE WHO HAVE PROVIDED US WITH FIRST
HAND EVIDENCE OF THE TALENT ON WHICH THE EW NATION CAN
DRAW. THEY AUGUR WELL FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF PAPAU NEW GUINEA
IN THE WORLD COMMUNITY.
I WANT TO EXPRESS ON BEHALF OF MY DELEGATION OUR DEEP
APPRECIATION FOR THE EXCELLENT PRESENTATION WHICH THE ADMINISTERING
AUTHORITY AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA HAVE
DELIVERED TO THE COUNCIL. MY COUNTRY IS AMONG THE FIRST
TO ESTABLISH A DIPLOMATIC POST IN PORT MORESBY, AND WE LOOK
FORWARD TO A LONG AND WARM RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEW NATION,
NOT ONLY BILATERALLY BUT IN THE MULTILATERAL ARENA AS WELL.

IT IS THE ROLE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL TO FACILITATE THE
TRANSITION TO SELF-GOVERNMENT OF THOSE TERRITORIES UNDER
THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM. MINISTER MAORI KIKI
HAS ASKED THE COUNCIL FOR FLEXIBILITY IN THE TIMETABLE BECAUSE
OF THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES HE HAS OUTLINED. THE UNITED
STATES DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT HIS REQUEST IS A REASONABLE
ONE, AND THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD MEET IT.

THE PEOPLE OF PAPUANEW GUINEA HAVE CHOSEN INDEPENDENCE.
WE WISH THEM WELL AS THEY ASSUME THEIR NEW STATUS AND
NEW RESPONSIBILITIES. UNQUOTE
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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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